

FOR FREEDOM

A STUDY IN GALATIANS

SERMON NOTES

March 9, 2025

Speaker: Pastor Brian Bennett

For Freedom

For Freedom: "Approval Issues"

Approval issues are a _____.
[Galatians 1:6-7; 10]

- The Gospel is the _____ and a _____

Approval issues _____ me of my _____.
[Galatians 1:10; 5:1; Philippians 4:11-13]

Jesus sets me free to experience my real: _____, _____, and _____.
[1 John 3:1; Matthew 11:28-30; Hebrews 12:1-2]

- When we _____ and _____, we trade in being liked for being loved.

Next Step Questions:

- Are approval issues robbing you of the freedom the Gospel gives us?
- Will you release it all to Jesus today and embrace His freedom?
- Will you "lay it down and let go" today and receive His love for you?

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Pathway Group Discussion Questions:

How is God at work in and around your life?

1. Understanding Approval Issues:

- How do approval issues manifest in our daily lives, and why are they considered a Gospel issue according to Galatians 1:6-7; 10?
- In what ways can seeking approval from others rob us of the freedom that Jesus offers?

2. The Gospel vs. Legalism:

- How does the sermon illustrate the difference between the Gospel and legalism, particularly in the context of the Galatian church?
- Why is it important to understand that "Jesus > everything" and "Gospel > Legalism"?

3. Freedom in Christ:

- Reflect on Galatians 5:1 and Philippians 4:11-13. How do these passages encourage us to find contentment and freedom in Christ rather than in the approval of others?
- How can social media and the desire for likes and approval impact our spiritual freedom and contentment?

4. Identity, Belonging, and Purpose:

- According to 1 John 3:1, Matthew 11:28-30, and Hebrews 12:1-2, how does Jesus set us free to experience our real identity, belonging, and purpose?
- What does it mean to trade being "liked" for being "loved" by God?

5. Practical Application:

- What steps can we take to release our approval issues to Jesus and embrace the freedom He offers?
- How can we encourage one another to lay down the need for approval and instead focus on our identity in Christ?

6. Personal Reflection:

- How did you answer the next step questions this week?
 1. Are approval issues robbing you of the freedom the Gospel gives us?
 2. Will you release it all to Jesus today and embrace His freedom?
 3. Will you "lay it down and let go" today and receive His love for you?

Note for life group leaders: if you need additional support or resources due to the depth of the verses and topics covered don't hesitate to reach out: zorom@pathwayvb.com

[Visit the Pathway Church Calendar - Click Here](#)

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February 23– March 1, 2025

FINANCIALS

\$50,325 up 4.8% to budget for W/E 3/1/25

\$289,223 down 11.7% to budget for Year to Date

\$7,596 Net Revenue after including other income through January 2025

\$21,349 for Missions or 16.2% of General Giving YTD through January 2025

CONNECT

Total Worship Attendance: 1244

Online: 281

TWC Attendance Sunday: 603

Kids Sunday/Wednesday: 157

Students Sunday/Wednesday: 203

GROW

Baptisms (YTD): 87

Discipleship Groups: 190

Salvations (YTD): 129

SERVE

People Fed at Food Pantry (one day): 50

Weekly Volunteers: 168